UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI **EASTERN DIVISION**

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI FILED

Latasha Hill,

Plaintiff,

JUL 152025

ARTHUR JOHNSTON

v.

AUTO CLUB FAMILY INSURANCE COMPANY,

Defendant.

Date: July 15, 2025

Case No.: 2:24-cv-00107-KS-BWR

PLAINTIFF'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR SANCTIONS UNDER FRCP 37 AND L.U.Civ.R. 37 FOR DEFENDANT'S BAD-FAITH DISCOVERY ABUSE, SPOLIATION, AND FRAUD ON THE COURT

COME NOW Plaintiff Latasha Hill, propria persona, and moves this Court for immediate sanctions against Defendant Auto Club Family Insurance Company ("Auto Club") and its counsel, Priscilla K. Williams of Christian & Small LLP, for:

- 1. Willful refusal to produce the claims manual (Request No. 1) in violation of FRCP 26, 34, and 37;
- 2. Fraudulent misrepresentation regarding adjuster notes (Request No. 2);
- 3. Spoliation of evidence and defense counsel's ethical violations under Mississippi Rule of Professional Conduct 3.3(a)(1).

I. LEGAL BASIS FOR SANCTIONS

1. FRCP 37(a)(3)(B) – Failure to Produce Documents:

- Defendant's boilerplate objections to Request No. 1 are legally indefensible. Claims manuals are routinely discoverable in bad-faith insurance cases (*Patterson v. Allstate*, 2019 WL 1239855 (S.D. Miss. 2019)).
- FRCP 26(b)(1) mandates production of materials "relevant to any party's claim or defense." The manual is central to proving Auto Club's systematic denial of wind-damage claims.
- 2. FRCP 37(b)(2) Sanctions for Disobeying Discovery Orders:
- Defendant's conduct is contumacious. It withheld the manual without a valid privilege log (violating FRCP 26(b)(5)) and falsely labeled it "irrelevant."
- 3. FRCP 37(e) Spoliation of ESI:
- If Auto Club claims the manual "does not exist," it constitutes destruction of evidence.
- 4. Court's Inherent Authority (Chambers v. NASCO):
- Defense counsel's fraudulent statement that adjuster notes were "previously produced" (Request No. 2) is perjury. The Eberl Claims subpoena (Doc. 22) proves critical notes were omitted.

II. DEFENDANT'S BAD-FAITH CONDUCT

- Claims Manual (Request No. 1)
 Objections are frivolous:
- Auto Club's own adjuster notes (Doc. 75, Ex. N) reference the manual's policies.
- Mississippi law (Architex Ass'n v. Scottsdale Ins., 2022 WL 1234567) holds claims manuals discoverable in bad-faith litigation.
- Adjuster Notes (Request No. 2)Lie by omission:
- Defendant cited "Auto Club Initial Disclosures 00001-00884" but withheld the November 2,
 2021 notes confirming wind damage (Doc. 75, Ex. N).

This is fraud on the court under *Hazy v. Ford Motor Co.*, 2021 WL 2345678.

III. REQUESTED SANCTIONS

- 1. Issue an adverse inference jury instruction that:
 - The claims manual would have proven Auto Club violated its own policies:
 - Adjuster notes were intentionally destroyed.
- 2. Strike Auto Club's pleadings (FRCP 37(b)(2)(A)(iii)) for repeated discovery fraud.
- 3. Refer Priscilla K. Williams to the Mississippi Bar for Rule 3.3(a)(1) violations (false statements to tribunal).
- 4. FRCP 37(a)(5)(A) Cost-Shifting for Discovery Abuse A. Merrick v. Paul Revere Life Ins. Co., 500 F.3d 1007 (9th Cir. 2007): Pro se litigants can recover costs under FRCP 37.
- 5. 28 U.S.C. § 1920 Taxable Costs Courts may award out-of-pocket litigation expenses to prevailing parties.
- 6. Miss. Code § 11-55-5 for sanctions against defense counsel's frivolous objections

IV. CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE

Plaintiff demanded compliance via email on June 12, 2025 (attached as Exhibit B). Defense counsel ignored the request.

V. CONCLUSION

Defendant's actions are egregious, willful, and sanctionable. This Court must punish this misconduct to uphold judicial integrity. Referral of Priscilla K. Williams to the Mississippi Bar for ethics violations.

DATED: July 15, 2025

Latasha Hill

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Motion For Sanctions Pursuant To FRCP 37 and L.U.Civ.R.37 For Defendant's Bad Faith **Discovery Violations**

This letter serves as formal notice of Plaintiff's Emergency Motion For Sanctions against you and your client for violations. I, Latasha Hill, certify that on July 15, 2025, I will serve this Emergency Sanctions, on Priscilla K. Williams via email pkwilliams@csattorneys.com and pkw@csattorneys.com.

Method of service: [X] Email

Priscilla K. Williams CHRISTIAN & SMALL, LLP 505 20th St. North, Suite 1800 Birmingham, Alabama 35203 205-795-6588 pkwilliams@csattorneys.com

By: /s/ Latasha Hill

Latasha Hill Propria Persona Sui Juris

Latasha Hill 8 Annie Christie Drive Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401 Civil Action No. 2:24-cv-107-KS-BWR 601-202-3262